

SECRET



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

MEMORANDUM FOR: 25X1A
[REDACTED]
Director, Psychological Strategy Board
708 Jackson Place, Northwest

SUBJECT: CIA Participation in PSB Activities

1. Experience of CIA personnel participating in PSB activities has posed the ever present problem of security.

2. It is believed that the following courses of action will reduce the security problem:

a. All personnel dealing with PSB problems which have CIA aspects, including the "ad hoc" panels now operating under the Director, should be selected and controlled by the following special measures:

(1) They should all be acceptable from a security standpoint to CIA (and other agencies if requested by them).

(2) The number of such personnel should be kept to an absolute minimum. The same personnel should be reemployed on successive panels or other PSB efforts to the maximum extent practicable.

(3) The principle of interlocking directorates should also be employed to the maximum extent practicable. That is, the same personnel serving on PSB panels, etc., should have similar responsibilities on appropriate committees at other levels of the Government which are concerned with the same problems.

b. Information concerning CIA activity which is reflected in any way at the PSB level should be held to that which is absolutely necessary to permit effectiveness. Experience to date with PSB planning activities indicates that this need to know may be described as follows:

(1) The most specific information required at the PSB level is probably with respect to what desired action effects are appropriate for assignment to CIA as part of an integrated inter-agency effort.

The broad

SECRET

SECRET

The broad brush treatment in present usage at this level of the Government is, in general, insufficient to permit the understanding of a proper relationship of overt to covert activities. This will, of course, result in reflecting the nature of CIA activities in the PSB. Although in many instances sanitized wording may alleviate the disclosure made in resulting documents, it will, in general, be necessary for the committees involved to understand the factual interpretation of these words.

(2) In the development of plans there is no necessity for detailed disclosure of CIA assets. This may arise at a later date if and when PSB seeks to perform its mission of evaluation. When this becomes a necessity, it is recommended that a covert operations panel be established by PSB and that the members of such panel be [REDACTED]

25X1A

25X1A

3. In addition, to permit proper coordination of PSB matters within CIA, it is recommended that agendas for PSB meetings in which CIA personnel participate be submitted as far in advance as possible.

4. I would appreciate your views on this matter.

SECRET

Approved For Release 1999/09/27 : CIA-RDP80-01065A000600010032-6
ADDRESS: SPECIAL COMMUNICATIONS TO
THE DIRECTOR OF
PSYCHOLOGICAL STRATEGY BOARD
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
PSYCHOLOGICAL STRATEGY BOARD
WASHINGTON

September 21, 1951

MEMORANDUM FOR A25X1AIA
([REDACTED])

FROM: 25X1A [REDACTED] PSB

Attached is the statement which I mentioned
to you yesterday.

JS

Enclosure:
Cpy Role of PSB
under 4/4/51 Pres. Dir.
(dtd 9/15/51)

Role of Psychological Strategy Board
under 4/4/51 Presidential Directive

The President's Directive creates an agency (Psychological Strategy Board) to provide more effective planning of psychological operations within the framework of approved national policies, to coordinate the psychological operations of all departments and agencies of government, and to evaluate the effectiveness of the national psychological effort.

The members of the Board are the Under Secretary of State, the Deputy Secretary of Defense, and the Director of Central Intelligence. The decisions of the Board are carried out by a Director, appointed by the President. A representative of the Joint Chiefs of Staff sits with the Board; and the Board may add to its number from time to time appropriate representatives of the heads of other governmental units.

The Board is the nerve-center for strategic psychological operations. At the apex of government, it provides a single office for determining the planned use by all governmental units of activities--other than combat and overt economic warfare--in order to influence the opinions, attitudes, emotions and behavior of foreign groups in ways that will support the achievement of approved national aims. Through the Board, the President is enabled to turn to one body, instead of many, for a prompt assessment of psychological operations--as to magnitude, emphasis, pace, effectiveness, and responsibility for execution. Thus, the Board fills the existing gap in the direction of cold war strategy, now diffused among many governmental units; and affords a unified base from which to take from an enemy the initiative in psychological operations.

- 2 -

The Board itself is not an operational body. It is not concerned with day-to-day problems arising in the psychological field, except as they may affect progress toward major strategic objectives. Its function is not tactics, but long-range, overall strategy. The directive transfers to the Board the responsibility for overall psychological policies, objectives, and programs, and their coordination among the various departments and agencies; provides for adjustments to be made by such departments and agencies in their existing arrangements in this regard; and amends previous National Security Council instructions to that extent.

To execute its role:

1. The Board will prepare, in order to determine the framework of its action under the Directive, a comprehensive inventory of those approved national policies which may directly or indirectly involve psychological operations; recommending to the National Security Council the approval of such additional policies as may be deemed advisable.

2. In support of such approved national policies, the Board will formulate and promulgate overall policies, programs, and objectives for psychological operations; including the outline of an overall strategic plan for such operations.

3. The Board will stimulate all departments and agencies engaged in operations having psychological aspects, to set up effective psychological operational plans:

- a. by assigning to such departments and agencies the preparation of psychological operational plans to carry out any part of such overall strategic plan as to which no psychological operational planning has been initiated;

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

September 15 Draft
CONFIDENTIAL

-3-

b. by reviewing all psychological operational plans already initiated by agencies in order to assure that they are consistent with such overall strategic plan; determining those plans which may be left to the initiating agencies without further action by the Board and those plans as to which the Board should take some further action.

4. The Board will determine as to the various psychological operational plans: (1) emphasis, (2) priority, and (3) pace.

5. The Board will coordinate the execution by departments and agencies of all such plans within the framework of the overall strategic plan.

6. The Board will evaluate the programs of departments and agencies and their execution through psychological operational plans, in terms of effective accomplishment of the overall strategic plan; inspecting such programs and plans as it may select for evaluation without any commitment to survey the entire field.

7. The Board will maintain a small "watch committee," ready in emergency to take to the extent necessary ad hoc action with the appropriate department or agency.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~